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Gourd-Gardeners!

ARE YOU SEARCHING
FOR THIS ADDRESS?

THE GOURD-VINE

Vernon, Connecticut



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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Send for Gourd Seed, Ornamental
Gourds, Dried Gourds, Craftsman
Gourds, and the

FIRST GOURD BOOK

●

NOTE: Our various activities make it impossible for us to exhibit our Gourds at the THE GOURD VINE. We do all our business by personal correspondence and parcel post. We cordially invite you to read about the GOURD-VINE and its offerings.

*Awarded Gold Medal at 1939 New York World's Fair,
Gardens on Parade exhibit,*

GOURD-VINE EXHIBITS

The Gardens of the Nations, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, The New York Botanical Garden, The National Chrysanthemum Show, The Boston Fall Flower Show, The International Flower Show, The First New York Gourd Festival, The Women's National Republican Club, Exhibition of Rural Arts—under auspices of United States Department of Agriculture (Washington), the Horticultural Society of New York, The American Museum of Natural History, The Gardens on Parade, New York's World's Fair and at Garden Centers and Garden Clubs.

"An elaborate exhibit of gourds, said to be the finest ever shown in Boston and grown from seeds from all over the world, is entered in the show by Miss Helen Tillinghast (The Gourd Vine) of Vernon, Connecticut."

—*BOSTON HERALD*

"The gourds are just lovely—I have the greatest pleasure in looking at, and handling them. I do appreciate the care with which you selected such a choice group."

—*NEW YORK*

"Everyone who comes to my home and sees your gourds admires them extravagantly. Nowhere else have I seen such unusual specimens."

—*PENNSYLVANIA*

"Oh, I never saw such beautiful gourds anywhere! They are wonderful. The colors are lovely with my rooms, because I get glints of tangerine color, and these are heaven-sent."

—*RHODE ISLAND*

"One of the most active authorities on these plants (gourds) is Helen M. Tillinghast, Vernon, Conn."

—*HOUSE BEAUTIFUL*

GOURD CULTURE

Interesting gourd-vine growing in the garden—Gourds of unusual contour and rare beauty as indoor and veranda decoration—The most fascinating of hobbies!

GOURD SEED SHOULD BE PLANTED WITH FALL HARVEST IN MIND

HARD SHELLS (*Lagenaria vulgaris*) Vines luxuriant with fragrant, night-blooming white flowers, producing a bountiful yield of large, green fruit; raised for horticultural curiosity, or material, when dry, for craftwork such as birdhouses, megaphones, toys.

SMALL ORNAMENTALS (*Cucurbita Pepo* var, *ovifera*) Vines, climbing,—with day-blooming yellow flowers, much sought after for their gaily-colored and odd-shaped fruit.

The varieties of both species are usually named to indicate the shape of the fruit, as Hercules club, dipper, pear, egg. Within these species of gourds are a great many varieties—the crosses, give the enormous range of size, shape, color and design in the gourd-fruit—known by the name of **HYBRIDS**. One reason why gourd-gardening is far from monotonous.

There are other Cucurbits which are not true gourds, but whose fruitage, because of pleasing color and curious shape, are often listed as gourds, such as *Cucurbita maxima*. Examples: Turk's turban and Turk's cap, with their note of Chinese red and curious formation.

CULTURE NOTES

After danger of frost is over, plant gourd seed in open ground, depth twice length of seed. 5 or 6 in a hill—the latter 3 to 4 feet apart. (Seeds may be started much earlier under paper protectors) Gourds are lovers of heat and light. Full sunshine if possible; preferably rich soil, deeply dug and fertilized—if acid, lime may be added. Thin seedlings to three sturdiest plants. May be planted beside fence, trellis, arbor, or may be trained to form flower-bed on ground. Growing-time 3 to 5½ months according to species and climate. **HARD-SHELLS** may be left to “weather” all winter until shells are dry for craftwork. **SMALL ORNAMENTALS** should be harvested before frost. Rind should be bright in color and hard; stem brown, and left attached when picked. Handle very carefully, clean and store in dry airy place. Floor-wax, rubbed on helps preserve color.

FOREIGN GOURD SEED

The GOURD-VINE takes pleasure in offering the following named varieties of foreign gourd seed at 25c per packet, postpaid. (No warranty is given). Please send cash with order. 25% discount allowed to Garden Clubs on all orders for seed and for books amounting to \$10 or over.

FRENCH GOURD SEED LARGE HARD-SHELLS

(*Lagenaria vulgaris*)

Bottle, bird-houses
Bottle, very large
Bottle, small
Dipper or Siphon
Flat Corsican, dish
Hercules club
Maranka, dark green
(with cross ridges)
Powder-horn

SMALL ORNAMENTALS

(*Cucurbita Pepo* var. *ovifera*)

Apple, early, creamy white
Bicolor, green and yellow
Carabosse, warty fruits
Egg, Japanese nest egg
Flat, dark green and yellow
Miniature
Pear-shaped, yellow, green ringed
Pear-shaped, white
Pear-shaped, striped
Spoon
Warted, hard-heads

GERMAN GOURD SEED

SMALL ORNAMENTALS

(*Cucurbita Pepo* var. *ovifera*)

Apple, small, China
Apple, small, half yellow,
half green
Bell-shaped, half yellow,
half green
Pear-shaped, half yellow,
half green

LARGE ORNAMENTALS (*Cucurbita maxima*)

Chinese flat, round, vivid,
red, striped, yellow and green
Emperor's hat, yellow, daisy-like
Emperor's hat, striped green
Emperor's hat, three-colored
Turk's cap, red
Turk's cap white, striped red
Umbrella-shaped

ITALIAN GOURD SEED LARGE HARD-SHELLS (*Lagenaria vulgaris*)

Ball
Bottle, Pilgrims'
Bottle, small
Calabash pipe
Corsican, large dish
Corsican, small dish
Dipper
Dolphin
Enormous giant
Hercules club
Powder-horn
Sugar-trough

SMALL ORNAMENTALS

(*Cucurbita Pepo* var. *ovifera*)

Bicolored
Bullata
Flat-striped
Golden-ball
Heart-shaped
Lemon
Miniature
Onion-shaped
Pear-shaped
Warted, hard-heads

FOREIGN GOURD SEED

(CONTINUED)

LARGE ORNAMENTALS

(*Cucurbita maxima*)

Bishops mitre
Emperor's hat
Turk's turban

MELON-LIKE

(*Cucurbita argyrosperma*)

Silver-seeded

(*Cucurbita melanosperma*)

Black-seeded, Angora

VEGETABLE SPONGE

Luffa
Green snake, curious and long
Mixed varieties

ITALIAN GOURD SEED

Cucumis odoratissimus, fragrant
Cucumis glossularia, gooseberry
Cucumis erinaceus, hedgehog
Cucumis flexuosus, snake
Cucumis dipsaceus, teasel
Momordica Balsamina,
Balsalm-apple
Momordica Charantia,
Balsalm-pear
Trichosanthes Anguinea
Green serpent

SMALL ORNAMENTAL

(*Cucurbita Pepo var. ovifera*)

Crown gourd (may not come true to type, but very interesting)
Cucumis Metuliferus
African horned cucumber (new)

GOURD-VINE'S SPECIAL MIXTURE

Hand-Selected Seed from Foreign and Domestic Gourds

Cross-pollination has produced some unusually fine hybrids which have attracted nation-wide attention. Highest recognition received in awards, medals and prizes. 50c and \$1.00 per packet, postpaid.

SMALL ORNAMENTALS

(*Cucurbita Pepo var. ovifera*)

LARGE ORNAMENTALS

(*Cucurbita maxima*)

HARD-SHELLS

(*Lagenaria vulgaris*)

"Seeds very fine. I think almost every seed we planted came up."
—NORTH CAROLINA

"The gourds raised from your seed were among my nicest ones, and I raised 3500."
—STATE OF WASHINGTON

"I shall order your collection, as they produced some beautiful specimens."
—MAINE

SEED

FOR DECORATIVE COMBINATIONS WITH GOURDS

NATURE MATERIAL to use with arrangements of ornamental gourds 25c per packet postpaid. (List follows).

AZTEC CORN—Cross-pollinated by the Indians for their religious ceremonies: the kernels range from red, rose, violet, yellow, henna, green, dark and light blue—a rainbow of colors. Our strain is more brilliant each year.

NEW! SMALL ORNAMENTAL PEPPER SEED FROM ITALY.
12 varieties mixed.

MARTYNIA SEED—The plant bears a peculiar animal-shaped pod in the fall.

ORNAMENTAL GOURDS

(IN SEASON)

ORNAMENTAL GOURDS, gorgeous in shape, design, and coloring, sculptured and painted by nature's secret art. They vie with the most beautiful flowers in attractive decoration for the home. \$2. per dozen and up.

DRIED GOURDS (untreated) Medium of expression for artists and craftsmen; also directors of boys' and girls' Summer Camps. Small assorted, \$1.25 per dozen and up.

BIRD-HOUSES—75c each and up.

CRAFTSMAN GOURDS

Strings-of-Charms	\$2. and up
Mitten marionette (any character).....	\$5.00
Flamingo	4.00
Gander	4.00
Bird-house (with inscription)	2.00

Other gourd craftwork made to order (postage additional)

THE FIRST GOURD BOOK

(Illustrated) By HELEN M. TILLINGHAST—50c

"Miss Tillinghast has written what is probably the first book devoted exclusively to gourds ever published in this country. The text covers all the facts which the garden maker needs to know in order to grow gourds in variety and with success."

—HORTICULTURE

"People interested in gourds will like THE FIRST GOURD BOOK by Helen M. Tillinghast, an eastern grower who has had long experience in gourd-gardening."

—SUNSET

"At last a gourd book! All the gardeners who have become gourd enthusiasts will welcome this concise, well-expressed little book with its fund of vital information."

"The author has devoted the first portion to the family, genera, and species of gourds, notes on catalogued varieties, seed and direction for planting and care."

"A well executed chart done in pen and ink by A. E. Hyde shows various types of gourds and the parts of the vine, leaf, seedling, staminate and pistilate flowers, and a cross section of the mature fruit."

—THE FLOWER GROWER

"Reasons for the popularity of the booklet are many. The text is practical and comprehensive. There are suggestions on how to find listings in seed catalogues and explanations of the descriptive terms applied to the many varieties. There are recommendations for gourd culture in the field, back-yard garden and roof garden. There are ideas on use of gourds for various types of decoration in the home. A full-page half-tone portrays a display such as might be made in a flower show."

—AMERICAN NURSERYMAN

"Every phase of gourd culture is discussed and very definite directions are given on how and when to pick and how to handle the ripened fruit. The paragraph on preservation is particularly pertinent."

—SANTA BARBARA GARDENER

"Helen M. Tillinghast who has raised more gourds, perhaps, than any other person in the East, has written "THE FIRST GOURD BOOK" to supply a well defined need. Few gardeners there are who will not be intrigued by the possibilities she suggests."

—GARDEN DIGEST

"This branch of the Cucurbita family had not been given permanent honor between covers until Miss Tillinghast, out of her wide experience with Gourds, set down all the facts of their cultivation, variety and uses. The book is a valuable contribution."

—HOUSE AND GARDEN

Miss Tillinghast of the Gourd-Vine, Vernon, Conn., offers for Garden Clubs and Horticultural Groups, a most delightful and entertaining lecture, illustrated with many colored slides and beautiful photographs touching on all phases of the subject of Gourds—their historical, utilitarian, cultural and decorative aspects.

Terms for these lectures are moderate and correspondence is invited. \$25. plus travelling expenses from Hartford, Connecticut



*Tipped Gourd-bowl with Cucurbits,
Rabbit and Marionette.*

THE GOURD-VINE

Vernon, Connecticut